AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

1-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell, comprising an electrolyte membrane, and an air pole and a fuel pole provided to sandwich said electrolyte membrane therebetween, each of said electrolyte membrane, said air pole and said fuel pole including a polymer ion-exchange component, wherein said polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of aromatic hydrocarbon polymer, said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly has an ion-exchange capacity Ic in a range of 0.9 meq/g $\leq$ Ic $\leq$ 5 meq/g, and a dynamic viscoelastic modulus Dv at 85°C in a range of 5×10^8 Pa $\leq$ Dv $\leq$ 1×10^{10} Pa, and wherein if the weight of catalyst particles included in each of said air pole and said fuel pole is represented by W, and the weight of said polymer ion-exchange component included in each of said air pole and said fuel pole is represented by X, the ratio X/W of the weights W and X is in a range of $0.05 \leq X/W \leq 0.80$.

6. (previously presented) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 5, wherein said electrolyte membrane includes a first polymer ion-exchange component, and each of said air pole and said fuel pole includes a second polymer ion-exchange component and said catalyst particles, wherein said second polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of aromatic hydrocarbon polymer free of fluorine which is soluble

when said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly is immersed into a solvent for recovering said catalyst particles, and said first polymer ion-exchange component is a sulfonated substance of aromatic hydrocarbon polymer free of fluorine which is soluble when an undissolved material removed from said solvent is immersed into a solvent for recovering said first polymer ion-exchange component.

7. (previously presented) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 6, wherein the solubilities of said first and second polymer ion-exchange components in said solvent into which said electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly is immersed are such that the solubility of said second polymer ion-exchange component is larger than that of said first polymer ion-exchange component.

8. (previously presented) An electrolyte membrane/electrode assembly of a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell according to claim 5, 6 or 7, wherein said aromatic hydrocarbon polymer is any of polyether-ether ketone, polyether sulfone, polysulfone, polyetherimide, polyphenylene sulfide and polyphenylene oxide.